

Blendon Township
Board Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2020

****Kurt Gernaat facilitated the meeting via 'Go to Meeting' for the Board. Prior to the start of the meeting, Kurt explained to all in attendance how the meeting was going to work in the virtual setting and how to participate during the public comments sections of the meetings.**

1. **The meeting was called to order** at 7:01 pm by Supervisor, Kevin Peters
2. **Invocation** was given by Supervisor, Kevin Peters
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by attendees.
4. **Roll Call: PRESENT:**
 - Kevin Peters, Supervisor
 - Robin Overway, Clerk
 - Greg Golembiewski, Treasurer
 - Stan Taylor, Trustee
 - Paul Blauwkamp, Trustee

ATTENDING: Kurt Gernaat, Fire Chief

5. ***Motion to approve the agenda*** was made by Stan Taylor, support by Paul Blauwkamp
Motion Carried 5-0
6. ***Motion to approve the March 16, 2020 meeting minutes*** was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Robin Overway.
Motion Carried 5-0
7. ***Motion to approve the invoices*** dated March 17, 2019 through March 31, 2020, was made by Kevin Peters, support by Paul Blauwkamp.
Motion Carried 5-0
Motion to approve the invoice dated April 1, 2020 through May 18, 2020, was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Robin Overway.
Motion Carried 5-0
8. **Public Comment for items not on the agenda:**
 - a. None
9. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - o As Submitted
10. **Clerk's Report:**
 - o As Submitted
11. **Supervisor's Report:**
 - o As Submitted
12. **Monthly Reports:**
 - a. Fire Department Activity Report
 - o None Submitted

- b. Police Activity Report
 - None Submitted
- c. Assessor Report
 - None Submitted
- d. Cemetery Sexton Report
 - None Submitted
- e. Building Permit Report
 - As Submitted
- f. Building and Grounds Report
 - None Submitted
- g. Preliminary Planning Commission Minutes
 - None Submitted
- h. ZBA Minutes
 - None Submitted
- i. Emergency Service Minutes
 - None Submitted

13. New Business:

a. **Budget Line Item Reconciliation:**

- Resolution 2020-05.01
- ***Motion to approve Resolution 2020-05.01 was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Robin Overway.***

Roll Call: Aye: Peters, Overway, Golembiewski, Taylor, Blauwkamp
Nay:

Motion Carried

b. **Cemetery Site Buy-Back Approval:**

- ***Motion to approve the buy-back of the cemetery sites of Dennis and Jana Gale was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Paul Blauwkamp.***

Roll Call: Aye: Peters, Overway, Golembiewski, Taylor, Blauwkamp
Nay:

Motion Carried

c. **Borculo Sidewalks:**

- Kurt Gernaat presented to the board
 - Olive Township may contribute to a portion of the cost.
 - Olive will determine discuss, determine and vote on the portion they may contribute pending actual bids verses estimates.
 - Olive may agree to a possible one-time contribution not for the maintenance and upkeep.
 - Side walk would run from Blair to Port Sheldon and Port Sheldon to Bingham on the east side of 96th Ave.
 - Estimated cost, minus engineering, for the Blair to Port Sheldon section would be \$75,000.
 - Looking for answers to three questions:
 - Move forward with the engineering?
 - Total project at once (\$150,000) or in two Phases?
 - Surface – concrete or asphalt?
 - Much discussion was had by the board.

- There were concerns in the decrease in State Revenue Sharing, due to the closed economy this quarter, which is a major source of revenue for our budget.
- Kurt Gernaat will contact Williams & Works for the following information:
 - To get a price comparison on the difference between concrete and asphalt.
 - Estimate projection for the total project.
- Board will readdress this topic at the next meeting.

d. **Township Manager:**

- Originally discussed February 18, 2019.
- Discussed and public comment heard at the following (7) meetings:
 - February 18, 2019
 - April 15, 2019
 - May 20, 2019
 - July 15, 2019
 - August 19, 2019
 - October 21, 2019
 - March 16, 2019
- Supervisor Peters addressed each of the board members on their opinion of a potential township manager.
 - Difficult decision due to the fact that this is an election year and the board could change significantly in the next few months.
 - More research and discussion should to be done
 - Board members encouraged to individually discuss with Kevin their questions, concerns, and ideas

14. **Old Business:**

- a. None

15. **Public Comments for items that were on the agenda: (made via 'go to meeting')**

- **Bernadette Schaffer:** Stated the findings from information she gathered about other municipalities.
- **Andrea Kole:** Questioned why the position would be appointed; Why not ask the residents? Would the current officials take a cut in salary?
- **Scott Helder:** Questioned why the supervisor doesn't have 'set duties'
- **Bernadette Schaffer:** Questioned the salaries listed in the 2020-21 budget and how that was determined
- **Sean Miller:** Questioned what the role and responsibilities of the manager would be. Feels that the board needs to be able to clearly communicate why it is an advantage to the township to have a township manager.
- **T. Russell:** Questioned what are the statutory duties of the township supervisor.

16. **Upcoming Events:**

- a. Planning Commission Meeting – **May 19, 2020 @ 7:00 (being held via 'go to meeting')**
- b. Township Board Meeting – **June 15, 2020**

17. Adjournment:

- a. With no other business to be brought before the Board, a motion to adjourn at 8:35 pm was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried 5-0

Recorded by Tina Vander Schuur
Submitted by Robin Overway, Township Clerk